

March 27, 2019

STATEMENT FROM THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF STATE GAMES IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRIES REGARDING LIBERTY UNIVERSITY SERVING AS HOST FOR THE 2019 STATE GAMES OF AMERICA

The State Games of America is an Olympic-style event featuring competition between State Games medal winners from across the nation every two years at varying locations. The event is organized by the National Congress of State Games (NCSG) (<http://www.stategames.org/>), a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization based in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and housed within the office of the State Games of Michigan. It is not affiliated in any way with Liberty University.

Founded in 1986, NCSG is an independent membership organization comprised of 30 Summer State Games and 10 Winter State Games organizations from across the U.S., all of which are non-profit organizations. It is also member of the US Olympic Committee's Multi Sport Organizational Council.

NCSG's mission is to support State Games member organizations in the promotion of health, fitness and character building through multi-sport competitions and physical activities. It is an independent organization unaffiliated with any religious groups or political organizations, nor -- given its charter -- does it support any religious or political organizations.

The 2019 State Games of America was awarded to National Congress of State Games member Virginia Amateur Sports (Virginia Commonwealth Games) with support from the City of Lynchburg and Liberty University (LU). The majority of the sports competition will be staged at LU on July 31-August 4, 2019. The Lynchburg/LU bid was selected based on its suitability to accommodate and host a multi-sport competition with over 15,000 athletes. It is the first time that the state of Virginia and Virginia Amateur Sports have hosted the State Games of America.

Previous State Games of America events were hosted by the West Michigan Sports Commission in Grand Rapids, Michigan (2017) and Nebraska Sports Council in Lincoln, Nebraska (2015); the 2021 Games will be hosted by the Iowa Sports Foundation in Ames and Des Moines.

For more information, contact Eric Engelbarts, president of the National Congress of State Games at 616/608-1854 or president@stategames.org.